

Appl. No. 10/775,524
Amtd. Dated Dec. 10, 2004
Reply to Office Action of Sep. 10, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An electrical connector, comprising:
an insulative housing having a top wall, a bottom wall, opposite sidewalls and a rear wall, which together define a receiving space for receiving a complementary electrical connector, an L-shaped tongue projecting forwardly from said rear wall and extending into said receiving space, defining a plurality of passageways extending therethrough defined in the L-shaped tongue and extending through said rear wall, the housing including and a pair of keys extending rearwardly from two opposite sides thereof;

a plurality of contact units received in corresponding passageways, each contact unit having at least one mating portion and a tail portion opposite to the at least one mating portion; and

a spacer attached to the insulative housing and comprising a body portion and a supporting portion projecting from the body portion, the body portion defining a plurality of through holes communicating with the passageways for insertion of the contact units therethrough and a pair of keyways on opposite sides thereof.

Claim 2 (original): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 1, wherein said spacer defines a gap between said supporting portion and the body portion.

Claim 3 (original): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 2, wherein said supporting portion defines a plurality of grooves in a top

Appl. No. 10/775,524
Amdt. Dated Dec. 10, 2004
Reply to Office Action of Sep. 10, 2004

surface thereof.

Claim 4 (original): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 1, wherein said keyway has a protruding rib in an inner wall thereof.

Claim 5 (original): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 1, wherein said spacer has a pair of platforms protruding upwardly from a top side of the body portion along a front surface thereof.

Claim 6 (original): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 1, wherein said spacer further comprises a plurality of protrusions projecting respectively from a front surface of the body portion, and wherein the insulative housing defines a plurality of apertures for latching with the protrusions.

Claims 7-8 (canceled)

Claim 9 (currently amended): The electrical connector as claimed in claim [[8]] 1, wherein said insulative housing has a guiding slot defined in one sidewall thereof and communicating with said receiving space.

Claim 10 (original): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 1, wherein said tail portion of the contact unit has a U-shaped configuration and extends along a top face of the supporting portion.

Claim 11 (original): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 10,

Appl. No. 10/775,524
Amdt. Dated Dec. 10, 2004
Reply to Office Action of Sep. 10, 2004

wherein said contact unit has a fork-shaped configuration and further comprises a base portion and three retention portions extending forwardly from the base portion, three mating portions extending forwardly from corresponding retention portions and the U-shaped tail portion extending rearwardly from a rear edge of the base portion.

Claim 12 (original): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 11, wherein each retention portion forms a plurality of barbs on two opposite sides thereof.

Claim 13 (currently amended): A cable end connector assembly adapted for mating with a complementary electrical connector, comprising:
a housing defining a plurality of passageways and a guiding slot in one side thereof for guiding insertion of the complementary electrical connector, and having at least one key;

a plurality of contact units received in said passageways;

a spacer comprising a plurality of through holes, a supporting portion supporting the contact units and at least one keyway receiving said at least one key;

a plurality of wires each comprising a conductive core electrically connecting with a corresponding contact unit; and

a cover over-molded with a rear end of the housing and front ends of the wires.

Claim 14 (original): The cable end connector assembly as claimed in claim 13, wherein said at least one key is disposed in a side of the housing.

Appl. No. 10/775,524
Amdt. Dated Dec. 10, 2004
Reply to Office Action of Sep. 10, 2004

Claim 15 (original): The cable end connector assembly as claimed in claim 14, wherein said spacer comprises a body portion and opposite side portions in two opposite sides of the body portion.

Claim 16 (original): The cable end connector assembly as claimed in claim 15, wherein said supporting portion projects from the body portion and connects with the side portions.

Claim 17 (original): The cable end connector assembly as claimed in claim 13, wherein each contact unit has a fork-shaped configuration and comprises a base portion, at least one retention portion extending forwardly from the base portion, at least one mating portion extending forwardly from corresponding at least one retention portion, and a U-shaped tail portion extending rearwardly from a middle of the base portion.

Claim 18 (original): A cable connector assembly comprising:
an insulative housing defining a mating port in a front-to-back direction;

a plurality of contacts disposed in the housing;

a cable connected to a rear end of the housing and including a plurality of conductors electrically connected to the corresponding contacts, respectively;

a bar formed on a face of said housing along a direction perpendicular to said front-to-back direction; and

a cover overmolded on said housing and said cable; wherein

Appl. No. 10/775,524
Amdt. Dated Dec. 10, 2004
Reply to Office Action of Sep. 10, 2004

said cover veils said bar and includes at least one transverse beam extending along said front-to-back direction and engaged with the bar in at least one direction perpendicular to said front-to-back direction, and wherein said transverse beam cooperates with other portions of the bar to circumferentially grasp the bar in a cross-sectional view taken along a vertical plane in said front-to-back direction.

Claim 19 (original): The assembly as claimed in claim 18, wherein at least one recess is formed in said face, and said recess extends along said front-to-back direction and passes under said bar and beyond both two sides of the bar, and wherein said transverse beam occupies said recess.

Claim 20 (original): The assembly as claimed in claim 19, wherein said recess does not extend through a front face of the housing.

Claim 21 (original): The assembly as claimed in claim 18, wherein said direction is a longitudinal direction of the housing and said bar is an elongated bar.